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PROGRAM On the Scene -- Ed Joyce

STATION WCBS

DATE February 16, 1965 3:15 P.M.

CITY New York

FULL TEXT

CPYRGHT

ED JOYCE: "This is Ed Joyce. It's been about 40 years since the lie detector or the polygraph has been with us, and after 40 years it is still the subject of much controversy. Our higher courts have spurned it, many psychologists have debunked it, civil liberty leaders have denounced it. But if the past is an indication, the lie detector will continue to prosper, despite many assaults.

"Our guests this afternoon are three gentlemen who have many definite ideas about lie detectors. Cleve Backster, who founded the Backster School of Lie Detection, services such local firms as Tarry Transportation where he screens everybody from the mechanic to the top executives, and other firms -- so many, that I won't mention. Mr. Backster said that he helped set up the CIA's Polygraph program in 1948.

"And we expect to have joining us at any moment, he's been detained, he's on his way, I understand, Walter Goodman, an editor and author whose most recent book, 'All Honorable Men,' was the study of ethics in business and government. Mr. Goodman's recent article in the New York Times magazine section -- Lie Detectors Don't Lie, But -- has caused a great deal of comment.

"Our third guest is Dr. George Dillon, assistant professor of psychology at Wagner College on Staten Island, who is currently engaged in a government research project in polygraph-measured blood pressure changes with conditioning procedures. I wonder if at the very beginning of the program, Mr. Backster, you would give us some idea of the function you see the